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The official newsletter of the
Fareham Sailing & Motor Boat Club
December 2015



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To contact the editor
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Please try to get your
articles, pictures, adverts
etc. to the editor by the
20th of the month to
ensure their inclusion in
the following month's
edition.

Commodore's Comments

So here we are in December with Xmas just ahead, where did the year go? It has gone with a flash and I trust 2015 has been kind to you and yours with lots of good memories - some ideal for a Club talk. Hint, hint, just asking!

The dinner dance last month was a wonderful evening at the Lysses Hotel in High Street with outstanding food, worthy winners of silver ware and some interesting moves on the dance floor - a fabulous culmination of a very successful Club year. Congratulations to all participants of our sailing events who won prizes and well done to all competitors who turned out, rain or shine, and joined in - see you out there in the new year!!

The AGM went very well with all committee positions being filled by the close of meeting; the first time that has happened for a few years. Thank you to everyone who came forward to support FSMBC moving on and also thank you to existing committee members for staying in role. Welcome on board Lin, Lizzie, Dave and Bob! Thanks also go to Committee members or those in other roles who stood down this year. The support and dedication to the Club has been wonderful.

The Management Committee nominated and the gathered membership at the AGM agreed to make Norman Bagshaw and Robin Wren Honorary life members in recognition of their support both past and present to FSMBC. Congratulations to Norman and Robin - well deserved nominations and celebrated with champagne!

A week after our own dinner dance John and I were invited to Hardway's dinner dance and thoroughly enjoyed a splendid evening. Also took a few tips!!! (I know Mike reads our newsletter so thanks Mike for a lovely time, it was worth the detour in Gosport! Navigators eh - lol!)

Around the Club improvements apace and a special mention goes to Dave Branscombe, Kev Syms and Darren Walsh who have made a fantastic job of the bar refurb under the watchful eye of bar manager Pam Carr. This is an ongoing project but already bar people are enjoying a more comfortable environment to work in. Watch out for a special 'opening' evening' of the bar in February. Thanks Pam for organising it!

Preparations are underway for the Children's Xmas party, tickets are available for the Xmas Jolly and unbelievably, all raffle tickets have been sold! Well, Sally and co, that must be a record! At present Burns night in January is missing a Bagpiper so if you know of anyone who can help, please let Sally know asap.

Marion and Phil have been working with our Sailing and Social Committees putting the final details together for our 2016 year book and this will be available in January. Please check through your copy for dates of events to join in with and be sure to reserve those dates in your new diaries - something for everyone I'm sure you'll agree!

A new initiative this year has been to hold welcome evenings for new members and the next one is 11th December. Come say hello to our newbies and give them that warm welcome that our Club is renowned for. It will be good to see you there and much appreciated.

In a little under 18 months our hosts from Vannes will coming to the UK to enjoy hospitality given by FSMBC, Warsash Sailing Club, Portchester Sailing Club and Hill Head Sailing Club. There will be events to raise funds for this visit in all 4 Clubs and notices will be issued in good time. We kick things off with a presentation on 22nd January at 8pm in our Club House that will give a flavour of the 2015 exchange and there will be a definite French feel to the evening - tres bien!

It just remains to wish everyone a very merry Xmas and best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year!

Warm regards

Dee

ps Did I mention my early Xmas present - grandson Joseph James arrived 29th November, simply gorgeous!



Forthcoming Events



**Children's Christmas Party
on Saturday 5th December
15.00 hrs - 19.00 hrs
Santa will be visiting**

A small wrapped and labelled pressie no more than £10.00 in value to be placed in Santa's sack before the party.
Further details contact Dee Orme.

New Members' Welcome Evening

Friday 11th December 8 pm
A chance for you to be friendly and make new members feel welcome

*American Supper
8.00 pm*

New Year's Eve

*At the Clubhouse
Bring something to eat*

**Sunday December 20th
GRAND RAFFLE**

at 1 p.m.

Followed by

MUSIC & CAROLS

with

THE CREEKERS



**NO CLUB GAMES IN DECEMBER.
THE FUN RECOMMENCES ON
29TH JANUARY**



Don't forget the

Boxing Day Stir Up

Work off the effects of the Xmas pudding with a bit of Rowing activity on the creek



F S M B C CHRISTMAS JOLLY



**At the Clubhouse Saturday 12th December 2015
8 until late - Tickets £10
Ticket price includes substantial buffet, entertainment
and a glass of mulled wine.
Come along and join the fun**

Dates for your Diary

**Jan 22nd: Club Talk -
Vannes Rally
Jan 23rd: Burns Night
Feb 13th: Grand opening
of the refurbished Bar +
Valentine's Night Fun
March 5th: Cruisers'
Dinner**



Any items for inclusion in the January edition to be emailed to publicity@fsmbcnet.org.uk by 20th of December by the latest

Editorial

For the last two weeks I have had the dubious pleasure of doing jury service at the Crown Court in Winchester. I now realise how much time, and therefore money, is wasted in this legal system.

Monday - Turn up nice and early. Get shown explanatory video explaining everything that was expected of us. Hang around for a bit. Get allocated a court.

Hang around for a bit more until our court number is called.

Eventually escorted into the jury room and wait to see which 12 out of our group of 14 get selected the, if selected each of us swear or affirm the oath.

Defendant and witness names get called to check that none of us has previous knowledge of the case and therefore have to step down.

Now only about half an hour left before lunchtime.

Masses of paperwork pertaining to the case handed out for our perusal.

Rapidly lose the will to live.

Lunch. No food apart from chocolate bar vending machine. Check out the drinks vending machine. Fellow juror (who was on his 2nd week) states "When you have sussed out how to work that you will find it was not worth the effort". Abandon the machine and accept a spoonful of instant coffee from him and brew my own in plastic cup.

More of the same in afternoon. Nudge fellow juror to stop her falling asleep. The two barristers appeared to just bumble on not knowing to what end. How much do they get paid?

Go home.

Tuesday: Turn up again. Get told that due to hold-up on the Basingstoke line some jurors have been delayed so we cannot carry on for another hour or more!! My only consolation was that the magazine stack had several issues of Yachting Monthly. Eventually one lot of jurors turn up having shared a taxi then the remainder arrive by coach. Jubilation!

We can proceed. Anyway it is now nearly lunchtime. .

Afternoon, and we finally get to grips with listening to witness statements. It begins to seem worthwhile.

Wednesday: Continue with witness and defendant's statements.

Afternoon. Summing up. Then decision making. What totally amazed me was the time taken to come to a decision. We went from 10 to 2 not guilty to 10 to 2 guilty in three hours. Luckily, the Judge allowed a majority decision otherwise we might still be there.

We were then told we were not needed until the following Monday.

2nd Monday: Told there was a delay of about an hour as the prosecution and defence were in discussion with the judge. Told there was more delay, then more. Ditto after lunch. One hour to go before the end of day we are told the defendant pleaded guilty. We could go home. Waste of a day.

Tuesday: Turn up again.....Need I go on?

So, next time you complain that committee meetings seem to drag on - try jury service. However, I did come away with the conviction that the randomly chosen 12 is the best system we can come up with. I suppose the same can be said of committees.

With that thought in mind - MERRY CHRISTMAS ALL.



So , Here we go again! New FSMBC year - Lots of enthusiasm - Old brooms etc.
Group maintenance and project teams working on the 'as and when' option which has been successful over recent times will be further expanded and encouraged.

Pontoon Maintenance SALTERNS — Members who are not engaged in existing monumental tasks and with boats berthed off-shore are encouraged to form groups centred around one of the 12 service bollards. They should be responsible for cleaning the area of decking adjacent to their boats. Boat owners berthed on the shore side are also to form themselves into relay teams for cleaning other areas. It is hoped the bollard groups will maintain the main pontoon in their location and if they decide the finger alongside their boat needs cleaning they include that activity while working in the area and take responsibly for 'splatter' around their own craft.

A petrol powered creek water Jet Wash is available to be booked. Instruction in its operation, before during and after use will be provided. It will be available throughout the year on a 'first booked first get' basis but it is anticipated that March and September would be the months of concentrated effort on the pontoons. As always consideration for nearest and dearest must prevail so please do not get splatter on neighbouring boats.

One of the large blue drums has been prepared as a sump for creek water so that the washer could be used elsewhere at low water.

The machine is also available to members at a heavy returnable Cheque deposit, nominal cost and a leave it better than you found it basis.

LOCKS YARD, LUGGER and MAIN CLUB PONTOONS — A similar program to the above with some plan for the safe transportation of equipment between locations will be devised.

The future maintenance/replacement of the lugger storage area to be determined. Watch this space.

SALTERNS SCRUBBERS. (You had better not be referring to us ladies on boats berthed down at Salterns Tony ! Ed.)

It is proposed to look into the possibility of attaching 2 of the redundant pontoon sections, one on each outer side of the existing scrubbing posts. Also one could investigate the possibility of clearing the silt from between the posts and hopefully find the existing hard standing which with a little renovation could provide yet another valuable and convenient facility for members use at their own risk.

WOOD TREATMENT — During December a Rentokil surveyor will inspect and report on the condition of timber in the main Clubhouse. It is expected that some professional remedial attention might be needed and decoration should be held back until the 'all clear' is sounded.

PAINTING & DECORATING — We are looking for, and would warmly welcome, those members who get excited about such things There are all sorts of brush and roller wielding antics needed on a 'Forth Bridge' basis and, as always, we have knowledgeable experts to advise and lead the way.

MEMBERS' IDEAS — Should any member have a point of particular interest to the Bosons Team please outline in a memo and pass to a member of that team with a view to presenting their proposal at one of our monthly meetings.

ENOUGHS ENOUGH! — We have plenty of other non cosmetic projects on the stocks but, God forbid we give you dyspepsia on the run up to Christmas.

It seems we have a national glut of Brussels Sprouts this year and as far as I am concerned you are on your own with those!

Have a good one - no doubt we will see you in the Club.

Team Bosun

Overwintering in the Baltic - Nick Simms



I am now retired so my travels are now possible. – Never mind! Your turn will come. I think I made the decision to sail further afield many years ago when I realised that I had nowhere new to sail locally and the thought of the very long hop across the channel again didn't excite me in the least.

I suppose I had seen a different side to sailing when attending our Albin Vega International Friendship rallies in and around the Baltic coastal waters of Germany, Denmark and Sweden, and our sail in 2009 to Stockholm and the Archipelago through the Danish waters and Islands had made me decided that one day I would sail in these waters. I suppose also that the cheap winter storage, cheap marinas, free wifi and electric in some ports was another good reason for leaving the boat here in the Baltic.

So, in 2014 we set sail again for Baltic waters via the canals of Holland which we know so well with their abundance of free moorings and reasonably priced marinas finally exiting at Delfzjl. So it was back into the North Sea and around the German Frisian Islands, which are well worth a visit, then into the fast flowing River Elbe to Cuxhaven and Brunsbuttel, which is the start of the Kiel canal.

Of course you could sail across the north sea to the Elbe but for me it is one of those long arduous journeys that are just not fun - shallow sand banks, gas rigs, exclusion zones, an abundance of shipping lanes, etc, and at some point it will become a night crossing. No it's not for me! I think there is a better quality of life in the mast up, Dutch canals. The Kiel Canal is an experience not to be missed with all the big ships and liners slowly passing by and then out at the other end through the big ship sluices at Kiel and motor straight round into the British Kiel Yacht Club or one of the many marinas thereabouts. You are spoilt for choice.

Two days later we left Kiel and sailed to Grossenbroder Fahre, opposite the Ferhman Island, to meet the owner of the Marina we had chosen for our winter lay up of 2014/15. One of the great benefits when sailing in these waters is that there are no tides to work out, only currents – you can leave port at any time and arrive at any time you like. You have your own bows-to berth, and it is very rare that you have moor along side another yacht so no one trampling all over your decks. Very often there is free Wi-Fi and maybe a free electric hook up. There are BBQ s and picnic tables in every port to use for free and the Harbour/Haven overnight charges are at a realistic price. How civilised! The waters are idyllic with no wind over tide waves to slow you down, which makes for comfortable sailing and a fast passages. We had a fabulous sailing season.

The waters in the Baltic freeze in the winter so all boats have to be lifted out. I chose to be lifted out and put under cover into a non heated building, and so the internal boat temperature should not drop below freezing. (The min/max thermometer showed the lowest was +1 deg C.) The interior was much drier than it usually is when outside in the UK and of course the added bonus is **it's only about a third of the price of the equivalent here in the UK**, so all in all for me it was a good decision.

At the end of the 2015 sailing season we left “Constellation” again in Grossenbrode Fahre with the intention, next year, of sailing to the old East Germany and Poland.

Feel free to contact me if you would like any information on these trips.

Crew Mate: Nick Simms



Does anyone else have experience of overwintering their boat overseas?

Put pen to paper or finger to keyboard and share your experiences with us. - Ed

News from the Bar

Another big hello again from The Bar. As this is going to be the last newsletter before Christmas we would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a **Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**

and hope all your seasonal festivities go well. Have fun and keep safe. Don't forget to join in some of the festivities coming up.

A date for your diary: Saturday 13 February. Come and join us for our official 'Opening' of the new look bar. We plan to have a Cheese & Wine night as well as celebrating St. Valentines in some way.

As part of our refurbishment we need to clear some of the unidentified, unused tankards from behind the bar. If you can identify any of these shown can you please let me know which is yours.

Pam and the Bar Team



Who is the drunkard
Who's lost his tankard?
Do you know who glugs
From these personal mugs?
If you know whose they are
Tell the guys at the bar.

(Sorry about this duff doggerel. The editor got carried away)

The tale of the tankard that got reunited with its owner.

Once upon a time in a land we all know there was a young FSMBC club member who used to sup at the clubhouse bar. So frequently did he sup that he had his very own tankard stored on the shelf behind the bar. The tankard and he were the best of friends for many a year. However, there came a time when the club member could no longer afford the time to sup at the FSMBC bar so he gave up his club membership in order to pursue a life elsewhere. The tankard lay sad and forgotten.

Many decades later, the man returned to the place of his misspent youth and rejoined the club.

Standing at the bar, supping his ale, his mind turned to past memories of joyous evenings standing on this very spot. Reminiscing, he mentioned to the barman that in a previous life, decades previously, he'd had his very own tankard behind the bar.

'What? This one?' replied the barman.

'The very one!' uttered the astounded member. 'Just goes to show how honest the FSMBC members are'

(This is a true story. Ask Kim Hurst - Ed)

50 years a Member and still smiling
NORMAN BAGSHAW

Norman Bagshaw was made an Honorary Member of our club at this year's AGM. For the few members that don't know Norman the photo below shows him in a typical pose - pint in one hand, dog in the other. His son Adrian writes of him -



Dad first joined the club in 1965 and has been an active member 50 years.

His first boat was a small motor boat. His second was a debutant 21ft sailing cruiser which was altered to fit 4 kids, 2 adults and the dog. Mum said "I will go out in that as I know it will get us home if the engine broke down".

He became sailing secretary. I remember sitting in the rescue boat (bass boat with a seagull outboard) watching a huge fleet of albacores and bfireballs sail past.

Yachtsmen would sleep in the sailing club on the Rouhgay bowl weekend in those days. His third boat was an eventide, Malolo, again altered to fit 4 kids 2 adults and the dog. I'm not sure when he became bosun but as a youngster I used to go with him to the club on work party nights (Thursdays). I watched and learned as members did repairs to the sailing club followed by beer and darts with Jerry Richardson, Doug Farrand, Vic Hunt and George Sawyer.

Clypeus, dads fourth boat, was a 40ft ferrocement ketch which he built in the back garden in Wallis Dean Avenue. (I'm told Paul Limburn has a story that Dick Kipps dislocated his shoulder raising the mizzen on Clypeus so ask him next time you see him. Ed.)

There have been many boats after Clypeus. None of them where world beaters. Dad was telephoned one Sunday night after we had been sailing over the weekend. The call went something like this:-

"Hello Norman. This is I note that your burgee is still flying! "

"Yes I shall take it down next weekend"

"Yes Hum I was rather hoping that you would go down now as the tide is in!"

"Right Milly go on to bed I am going down to the bloody boat to take the bloody sailing club flag down!! Bugger !"

Dad has been a faithful member of the sailing club for over 5 decades arguing long and hard for what he believed was right for it through all that time.

.....and finally, Norman enjoying a gastronomic delight with the family. Long may he carry on.



Prize Giving at the Dinner Dance

(or the Sailing Secretary's excuse to put his arm round everyone)



The Best of the Rest

